

REMARKS

Initially, in the Office Action the Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 5, 7-25, 32-42 and 48-54 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0076408 (Dutta).

By the present response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 17, 32 and 48 to further clarify the invention. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-25, 32-42 and 48-54 remain pending in the present application.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

Claims 1-3, 5, 7-25, 32-42 and 48-54 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Dutta. Applicant has discussed the deficiencies of Dutta in Applicant's previously-filed response and reasserts all arguments submitted in that response. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections and provides the following additional remarks.

Regarding claims 1, 17, 32 and 48, Applicant submits that Dutta does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of these claims of, *inter alia*, wherein the plurality of possible classes of data comprise data visible to a human eye and data unintelligible to a human eye comprising at least one of subliminal data, data formed using steganography, or watermarking. The Examiner asserts that these limitations are disclosed in Dutta in Figure 3 and paragraph 25. However, these portions merely disclose that the object may comprise information presented on a two-dimensional substantially planer surface such as numbers, words, text, a drawing, a bar code, etc. This is not a plurality of possible classes of data that comprise data visible to a human eye and data unintelligible to a human eye comprising at least one of subliminal data, data formed using steganography, or watermarking, as recited in the claims of the present application. A bar code as disclosed in Dutta is not a plurality of possible classes of data comprising data unintelligible to a human eye comprising at least one of subliminal data, data formed using steganography, or watermarking.

Regarding claims 2, 3, 5, 7-16, 18-25, 33-42 and 49-54, Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on one of independent claims 1, 17, 32 and 48 and,

therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted previously regarding these independent claims.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Dutta does not disclose or suggest the limitations in the combination of each of claims 1-3, 5, 7-25, 32-42 and 48-54 of the present application. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that claims 1-3, 7-25, 32-42 and 48-54 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions about the present Amendment or anticipates finally rejecting any claim of the present application, a telephone interview is requested.

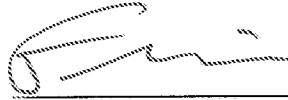
If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4365.

Respectfully submitted,

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